

Loan, grant changes catch students off guard

The B.C. government took another swipe at students last week by tightening financial aid requirements. This time it's the students with independent status who will suffer.

The new guidelines, released June 3 in the Student Assistance application forms, will force students who presently have independent status (Group B) to become dependent (Group A) on their parents, guardian, or sponsor if during the four months before the first day of class they:

- received more than \$600 cash from their parents
- lived for more than six weeks in a home owned or rented by their parents
- drove a motor vehicle during the school term which is registered, maintained, or owned by parents
- were declared as a dependent on their parents' income tax returns for either 1982 or 1983.

Nels Granewall, UVic Financial Aid Manager, said that what bothered him the most about the changes is that they are retroactive and were given without fair

warning.

The clause that will hurt independent students the most is the one about not living more than six weeks in their parents' house, said Granewall.

Students who left UVic at the end of exams and went home to their parents, perhaps because of being unemployed, will already have been home for six weeks. Most of these students have no ideas of this change, since the information was only released June 3. The only way most of these students will find out about the changes is when they send their self addressed, stamped envelope to the financial aid office and receive the application forms. By that time it will be too late, because most students would not be able to get an apartment until at least July 1, and their six weeks would be up.

One irate student summed up her perception of why the government made these changes. "They did it to screw us."

Nels Granewall had a different explanation.

"The province is desperately

short of money because there hasn't been enough revenue. There are restraint programs in every area.

"On May 5, they went to the people and got the mandate to use restraint. Student aid is only one area that is getting it. However, we are especially sensitive to it here," said Granewall.

"The big problem for the provincial government is that Single Group B status students create the biggest drain on government funds."

In 1982-83, when a student applied for assistance, the first \$1200 a student received was loan from the federal government. After that, the student received half loan and half grant up to the maximum loan of \$1800. After that, the student received all provincial grant up to a total of \$3800. That calculates out to \$1800 worth of loan and \$2000 worth of provincial grant.

When the provincial government forces an independent student to lose that status, it most likely means the government will not have to dish out the grant. The unfortunate student then has to ask parents to fill out a form outlining their total income. If they make more than a certain amount, depending on family size, they will have to contribute to their offspring's education costs. The government tells the parents how much they should contribute. However, if parents opt not to give this, the government will not make up the shortfall.

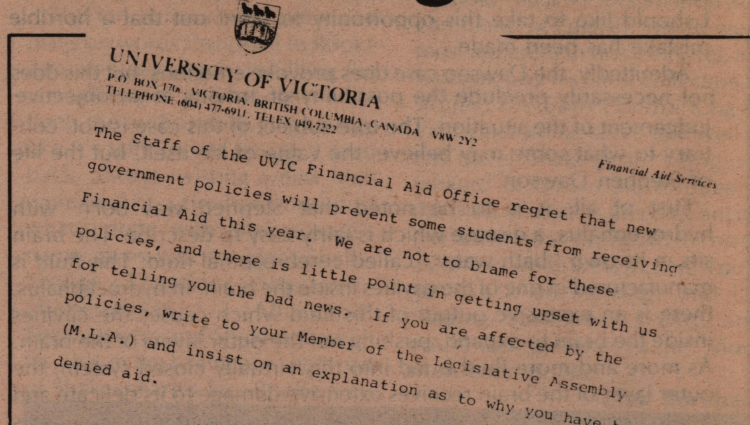
Granewall said that while it would appear this tactic will save the provincial government money, in the long run everyone loses.

He explained that many students will be unable to return next year because their parents won't pay their costs, or students who are older and have been financially responsible for themselves in the past, will not take any money from their parents.

Most students who presently have independent status are older students.

This may force students to drop out and go on welfare, which causes a larger drain on provincial funds.

It costs the provincial government more than \$4500 a year to keep a person on welfare compared to paying a maximum of \$2000 a year to help educate a student. Most grants are less than \$2000. The average grant at UVic



Financial Aid officers have spent a lot of time ducking as people react to new government regulations.

last year was \$1100.

Alma Mater Society President Brian Stevenson strongly criticised the changes.

He cited an actual example of a 30 year old student paying room and board at home while being employed for the summer. This student will now be forced to be dependent on her parents for education costs.

The other changes to the rules include the criteria for full time status. Students must now enroll in

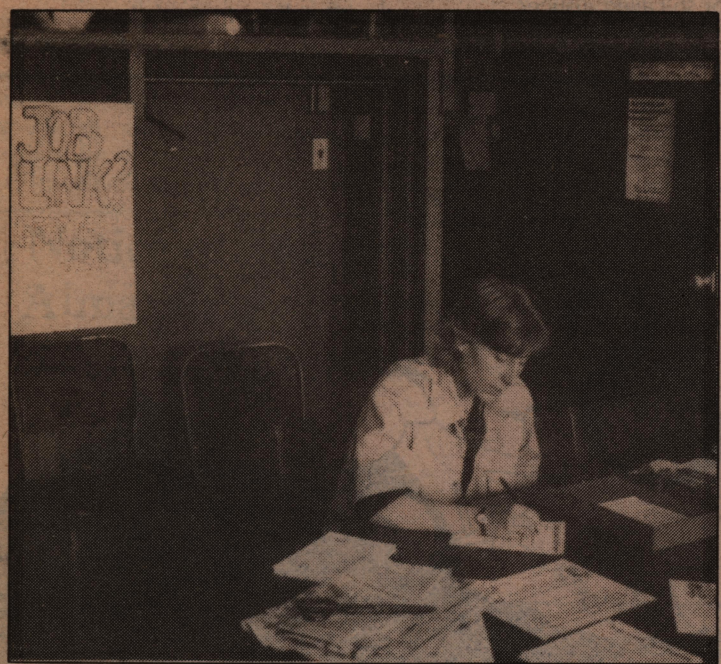
80% (12 units) instead of 60% (nine units) to qualify for student aid.

This new criteria, Stevenson said, is especially restrictive to single parents who must take care of their children besides studying.

Another group of students who will suffer, he said, are mature students who cannot handle a heavy course load.

Then there are students who may want to take a lighter course load in order to work part time.

continued on page 2



The AMS Unemployed Student Center in SUB room 111 is open between 11:30 and 1:30 for JOB LINK sign-up and job hunting advice. JOB LINK publishes the names of unemployed students, their qualifications and jobs sought. JOB LINK will be distributed in the Times-Colonist in an attempt to reach as many potential employers as possible. Registration for JOB LINK is free for post-secondary students and highschool grads. Registration forms are also available at the Employment Center for Students, 1208 Wharf Street and in the UVic SUB General Office. Deadline for registration is June 22, 10 am.

Student execs meet at UBC

To improve communications between students at B.C.'s three universities AMS President Brian Stevenson and his executive met with their student union counterparts from SFU and UBC June 13 in Vancouver.

The conference provided an opportunity for the student politicians to discuss student aid and student unemployment.

Representatives from all three universities rejected the new changes to student aid in principle. "We are asking the government to

eliminate the four criteria for independence," said Stevenson.

"We are also asking the government to roll back the 80% requirement to 60%," said Stevenson.

"We committed ourselves to a united approach to lobbying the government on student employment. The percentage of unemployed students in May was 24.7%," said Stevenson.

All three student societies committed themselves to publishing Job Link next spring. UVic's Job Link will be published in the Times-

Colonist later this month.

"The ideas we got will be very effective in helping us provide better services to our students," said Stevenson.

"There is also a commitment to work together with other universities in booking speakers and bands," added Stevenson.

Stevenson initiated plans for the conference because in the past there has been little communication between the three universities.

□ Warren OBrian

Fed legislation in limbo

Don't hold your breath in expectation of a government announcement about what form student aid is going to take this September. You may very well turn blue.

As yet, the Federal government has not passed any legislation to increase the amount of loan a student can receive, although it is presently before the House.

Provincially, the government has not given any clues as to how much they plan to contribute in grants.

Presumably, the Socred government is waiting for the federal government to announce how much money is available in the form of loans to students before it makes an announcement regarding grants.

A bill introduced to the House of Commons July 6 proposed the maximum loan a student can receive be increased to \$100 per week from the current \$56.25 per week. This represents an average increase to \$3200 from \$1800. The Feds will also increase the ceiling of \$9800 for the cumulative amount a student can borrow while in Post Secondary institutions. Students will have 24 months instead of 6 months of interest free status after graduation if unable to find employment, if the bill passes.

Meanwhile, according to AMS President Brian Stevenson, the Provincial government promised not to increase the amount of its budget designated for student aid from last year. Last year the Provincial government allocated \$15.3 million, but by September, because of

the increase in the number of applications for aid, the government had to find approximately \$8.5 million in additional funds.

Stevenson said government officials planned not to give out more than the original \$15.3 million allocated last year.

But if there is another 50% increase over last year plus last year's shortfall of over 50%, the \$15.3 million will be doubly inadequate, Stevenson said.

In order to stay within the suggested constraints, the provincial government will have to decrease the percentage of grant compared to loan.

Students will then end up having to borrow more this year.

When Serge Joyal, the Secretary of State for Canada and minister responsible for the student loan plan, began negotiations with the provinces to increase the loan portion, it was agreed that no province was to decrease the amount of aid it was providing to students because of the increase in federal loan.

The big question then is, if in fact B.C. allocated \$23.8 million dollars in grants for 1982-83, and is now committing only \$15.3 million for 83-84, will the provincial government renege on its agreement with the federal government?

Stevenson said an increase in the amount of loan students have to take out to make ends meet will definitely limit the availability of education. Poor employment prospects after graduation will make students unwilling to incur large loans.

□ Corinne Mol

Nicaragua focus of public meeting

The threat of all-out war between Nicaragua and neighbouring Honduras added a sense of urgency to a gathering sponsored by the Central American Support Committee of Victoria. Eighty people turned up at St. John's Church on June 8 to hear a panel of speakers comment on the current situation in Nicaragua.

The panel of four speakers, who have all toured Nicaragua within the past year, addressed the dimensions of the present crisis and differing aspects of the Nicaraguan revolution. Tensions between the two countries have escalated in recent months as a result of the increasing frequency

and intensity of border incursions by U.S.-backed Nicaraguan exiles who are based in Honduras.

Peter Boles focused on the agricultural sector, noting its importance to the Nicaraguan economy and the strides that have been made in agrarian reform. He contrasted agrarian reform in Nicaragua with the U.S.-designed program in El Salvador. According to Boles, 160,000 families have benefitted from the grassroots, bottom-up approach to land reform in Nicaragua.

Agrarian reform in El Salvador was more of an imposed, top-down process noteworthy for its corrupt bureaucratic administration and minimal impact on long-

term land distribution. Boles felt that agrarian reform in Nicaragua had been successful in meeting "the basic needs of the people."

Deidre Kelly addressed the role of women in the Nicaraguan revolution. Prior to the 1979 revolution women had few choices, said Kelly. Economic survival forced women into prostitution, marginal work as street vendors, or domestic work which Kelly described as tantamount to a "slave/master relationship."

Kelly noted that 30% of Nicaraguan women fought in the struggle for national liberation and that women have made significant gains since 1979. Contemporary women's organizations have been instrumental in reforming sexist and discriminatory legislation and played a key role in the literacy campaign, said Kelly.

Rod Gage, part of a teacher contingent touring Nicaragua, described the literacy campaign in the countryside. Although its success was marked by reducing illiteracy from 50% to 12%, Gage felt that an equally important factor was the cultural exchange between rural and urban citizens, which promoted greater understanding of regional problems and contributed to national unity.

Gage also remarked on what he saw as a spirit of self-sacrifice and mutual aid in the wake of the revolution. This was typified by the Nicaraguan teachers' association who foregoed 1982 wage increases in order to allow the government to direct scarce economic resources towards other socio-economic goals.

Peter de Belle analyzed U.S. strategy and motives in the so-called "covert war" against Nicaragua. He stated that U.S. policy, as manifest in the little known Santa Fe document, is "aimed at promoting political turmoil" and "magnifying conflicts within Nicaraguan society."

De Belle outlined the extent of U.S. support for counter-revolutionary exiles, or "contras." The Reagan administration has funneled \$31 million in military assistance to Honduras, sent 62 U.S. advisors, set up a military training base for the contras near the Nicaraguan border, and assigned 151 CIA agents to facilitate covert operations against Nicaragua, according to de Belle. The "probability of war between Nicaragua and Honduras is real," concluded De Belle.

□Rick Olding

Analysis:

Red Hot ruling

It is the verdict, not the sentence, of the Red Hot Video Trial which holds serious implications for the pornography business in Victoria. Judge Darrell Collins fined Douglas Video Ltd., better known as Red Hot Video, \$300 for the possession of obscene tapes with the intent to distribute.

The three video tapes in question were titled *Bad Girls*, *Filthy Rich* and *Candy Strippers*.

The trial examined whether the tapes fell under the obscenity code, if Red Hot Video distributors knew they were obscene and whether or not the content of the film exceeded community standards of what the public will tolerate.

Although the fine was minimal the decision was important to the public discussion on pornography. Most importantly, the Red Hot Trials highlighted the distinction between obscenity and pornography.

Women's groups who had hoped the courts would deal with pornography (loosely defined as images of violence in accompaniment with sex) found the legal system would only consider the issue of obscenity.

This leaves anti-pornography groups with two options: political action to have new laws introduced, and increase pressure on the B.C. Director of film classifications.

As a rule, this last option is little used, largely because most do not realize it exists. But MaryLou McCausland, Director of Film Classifications for B.C.,

considers no public response to sex films a sign of approval on the part of the community.

Obscenity, as a rule, is more difficult to define than pornography. What are community standards, and what constitutes "undue exploitation" of sex? Nevertheless, the court established that the community was not prepared to tolerate the content and implications of *Candy Strippers*, *Bad Girls*, and *Filthy Rich*. and the trial served, among other things, to suggest the three films previewed in court are indicative of the mainstream of Red Hot Video's rentals.

But the Red Hot Store in Victoria is open for business as usual, and it has launched an appeal. It will be interesting to see how Red Hot will finance its further operations after receiving a \$100,000 bill for legal fees.

Several other films have been seized from around the province and charges have been laid, but this process has already proved itself to be time consuming in the courts and very costly to the taxpayer.

So this leaves some basic questions. Will the fines increase as each new film is found obscene? Will there be new legislation to deal with pornography rather than obscenity?

And what about Red Hot Video? Is this the beginning of the end or merely an expensive inconvenience?

□Lesley Bullard
□Olive Mann

Patrick's progress

Toward the end of April this year, when the boundaries of existence enclosed little more than a frantic world of overdue term papers and looming finals, UVic student Patrick Chamberlain was taking a broader view of the world and grappling with different monsters.

What bugged Patrick bugs all of us; notwithstanding a certain variation in degree, and in the responses it provokes, we share a universal anxiety about nuclear war, and a feeling that something is dangerously wrong with living in a society that cannot rationally believe in its own future.

Peripatetic by nature, Patrick's response was to take a walk and think about it. Six weeks and over 1500 kilometres later, he's still walking.

Patrick's frustration and anxiety have become the driving force behind a 4800 kilometer trek to Ottawa, where he intends to express his concerns personally to members of the government of Canada, and to officials at the Soviet embassy.

He believes that Canada could play an important role in worldwide nuclear arms reduction negotiations, but that our credibility cannot be secured as long as we participate, directly or indirectly, in the storage, manufacture, or testing of nuclear weapons. He will be asking the government to refuse (or cease) testing of the Cruise missile, and to work towards making Canada a nuclear-free zone, as first steps.

Patrick left Victoria on May 3rd, towing a home-made cart that held camping gear, food, books, and accompanied for the first few miles by a handful

of supporters and media people. Since then he has endured traffic and exhaust fumes; sunburn; drenching in a mountain rain storm, and a consequent bout of the flu; ten-mile long hills through the Rockies; nights spent on the shoulder of the road where the highway clings so narrowly to the cliffside that there simply is nowhere else to stop; poor diet, based in part on money worries; mosquitos; and blisters.

He has also endured the human element: the driver who tried to run him off the road outside of Kamloops, and the occasional heckler in southern Alberta. Still, he says, "People have been wonderfully supportive, on the whole." Peace groups, individuals, and families along the route have provided shelter, food, and money. People at a peace gathering in Calgary passed a hat and came up with about sixty dollars. "It's generally sort of hand-to-mouth", Patrick says. "People don't have a lot to spare, but I always get from one day to the next."

On Sunday, June 12th, Patrick crossed the Alberta-Saskatchewan border. He expects to reach Winnipeg by the first week in July, and hopes to be in Ottawa in time for the mammoth peace demonstration to be held there in late August.

Patrick's trek is costing money. He needs your help to make it a success. Contributions can be made at the SUB general office, or mailed to:

Patrick Chamberlain Support Committee,
Alma Mater Society, Box 1700,
University of Victoria.
Ph. 721-8355

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UBC students want guidelines

vancouver (CUP)

University of B.C. students are circulating a petition to stop the university bookstore from selling pornography.

An ad-hoc committee against pornography is circulating the petition, calling on the board of governors to adopt guidelines preventing the sale of material which degrades and exploits women and minority groups and endorses violence against them.

"We want explicit selection criteria that are in line with campus ethics", said education professor Josephine Evans, a committee member.

Evans said she has fought since September with bookstore manager John Hedgecock, who refuses to remove magazines from the store which depict violence against women.

Within its first two days of circulation, the petition collected more than 400 signatures.

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editorial

Restraint or fiscal butchery

By waiting until June 3rd to release its new student aid regulations, the provincial government has once again waited until summer to announce crucial changes to its financial aid policies.

Waited until students are off campus attempting to get jobs and can't fight back.

Many students classified as independent last year are now termed dependent and will not qualify for much, if any, aid this year. In other words, many students will have to drop out for lack of funds.

These new regulations make access to a university education even more difficult than in the past.

They limit access to a university education to those lucky enough to find a good summer job or have parents willing to foot the bill.

Surely this was exactly what the student aid program was designed to prevent.

This isn't restraint, it's fiscal butchery of post-secondary education.

Something different for unemployed students

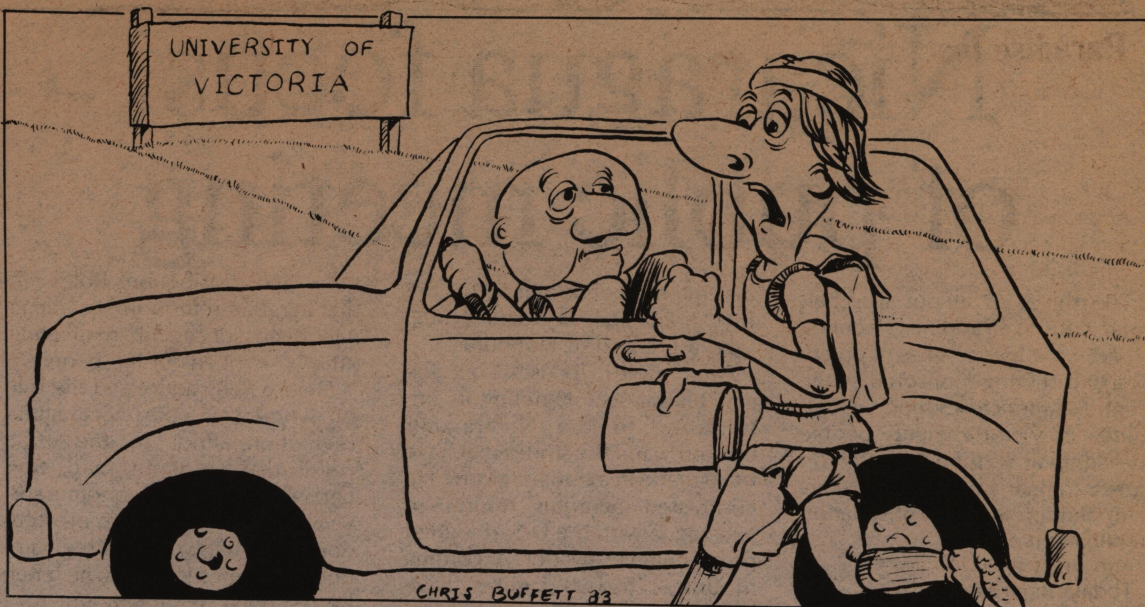
The 25% unemployment rate for students planning to return to school next fall is a dismal situation, even when student loans are readily available. New Student Loan regulations just released reduce many student's chances for assistance.

But there is a new service on campus of which students and potential employers should be aware. UVic's AMS set up an Unemployed Student Center in SUB room 111, and following a UBC example, initiated the JOB LINK.

Students are told to go out and find a job. This means their only option is pounding the pavement. Unemployed students have little or no money to spend on advertising their availability for employment. So, the JOB LINK widely distributes students' names and qualifications directly to potential employers. JOB LINK will be published as a special part of the *Times-Colonist* classified section.

But, JOB LINK has a double purpose: to connect prospective employers with unemployed students and, to heighten public awareness of the unacceptable and intolerable financial situation in which many students are finding themselves.

Unfortunately, the fact remains that JOB LINK, free coffee and advice offered at the Unemployed Students Centre don't even come close to solving the greater problems facing unemployed students. This does however seem to be one of the only options left — student groups, volunteers and community workers helping unemployed students. Judging from the new student loan regulations, it's pretty obvious that help won't be forthcoming from government sources.



Thanks Dad, but I can't use the car. Gotta be independent.

MARTLETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Letter policy...

The MARTLET has an open letter policy: we will undertake to print every letter we receive from students, staff, and faculty; letters must be typewritten (you can use our machines), doublespaced, and include the author's name and either student number or phone number where they can be reached during the day; they should not exceed two hundred words. Letters may be edited due to the limited available space. Pseudonyms may be printed in special cases. Letters not conforming to the above requirements may be printed at the editors' discretion, depending on their interest to the UVic community. Neatness also helps. If your letter has not been printed, it's probably because of your peculiar handwriting. Please write your MARTLET, it'll do your mind some good.

Thanks for the blood

Editors:

Red Cross would like, through your paper, to say thank you to the 1076 people who registered at the blood donor clinic on March 22nd to 24th at the University. We want, as well, to acknowledge the many helpers who were instrumental in establishing this record attendance.

A measure of the magnitude of this clinic is that the record which it broke is older than many of the donors who participated, having stood for twenty-one years. Quite aside from the immediate result of helping hundreds of the B.C. hospital patients, is the confirmation that the spirit of generosity still flourishes and assures the future health of the Red Cross Blood Donor Service. Well done, UVic!

G.D. Savage
Clinic Co-ordinator
Blood Donor Clinics
VICTORIA

Mishan "Witchhunt" reconsidered

Editors:

In their recently circulated note of condemnation, Quah and Bozman deplored the resignation of Economics Professor E.J. Mishan, a man who provided them with "inspiration and academic qualities par excellence" and who, because he was "highly critical...of radical Women's groups," was vilified in a "malicious campaign of libel" by that "organ of the fanatical feminists," the *Martlet*. That such a diatribe could be produced in light of Dr. Mishan's rather insensate letter of resignation is either a statement of the authors' loyalty to their professor and moral outrage at his "character assassination," or, and what appears more likely, an expression of an attitude in this society that victims get what they deserve and that when someone, particularly someone with the international reputation and impeccable credentials of Dr. Mishan, is accused of sexual harassment then some other explanation must be found to answer the allegations.

With this school of thought so prevalent, is it surprising that those whom Quah and Bozman accuse of cowardice would choose to remain anonymous? It would be far more surprising had they chose to subject themselves to further abuse from an unsympathetic community. Their appetite for justice is understandably tempered by the exigencies of self-preservation. Many feel that these women were ill-advised to even consider such a modeling assignment. Perhaps. But wasn't Dr. Mishan even more ill-advised to propose it? All artistic considerations aside, the sculpture of a nude woman with a plastic hose connecting her mouth to her anus is most certainly an attempt to relay a very disturbing message.

As to the models' failure to make "official complaints" (by this the authors presumably mean complaints lodged through official university channels, and not those presented by the police) the

answer is quite clear: such channels simply weren't available. Even if the administration had been approached, the lack of any guidelines or grievance procedures would have hampered an investigation of the allegations. In all fairness, Dr. Mishan seems to have been equally poorly served by these omissions. A sexual harassment policy statement is destined to be implemented by the '83-'84 academic year, and this will undoubtedly go a long way towards preventing "witchhunts" in future, but what is more urgently required is a programme of education that changes the attitudes that make necessary such legislation.

A copy of "The Mishan Witchhunt" by Messrs. Quah and Bozman is available by application to the Slavonic Studies Course Union c/o Dept. of Slavonic Studies.

James McGrath
(3rd year Mathematics)

Thirsty student

Editors:

This is to protest the recent SUB management decision to not (yes, not — you read it here first) open the real SUB Pub in July and August on several grounds.

First, what has happened during the time it has been closed? So far this summer, the 4-7 p.m. period has found the Pub/Caf virtually deserted, averaging 5 people in it at a given time over the last week or so. Meanwhile, the Lounge (open for service (?) has been turning a variable trade, not helped by a surprising amount of lingering opposition to it.

On economic grounds, wouldn't the loss of 10¢ profit per beer be more than offset by the added trade that could be had by simply opening the Pub at 4 pm (note: 4 pm, not 7 pm!), closing the Lounge completely (except perhaps for a few busy nights) and widely advertising this change??? So many times have I heard this summer the following:

CUSTOMER(S) (in Caf at 5 pm) "Can I get a beer here?"
WAITER "No. Try the Lounge, through there."
CUSTOMER(S) "Let's go somewhere else..."

Furthermore, if this summer is anything like last summer (i.e. hot, with lots of people on campus) the Lounge simply will not be able to handle the trade after about 4 p.m. Couple this with the lack of thirst-quenching draft in the Lounge — after a hot day of study or work, what could be better than a jug of draft with a few friends? — and the reasons for opening the pub should become obvious to all.

How about it, guys?

Keith Piddington

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Wargames on target

Man and the Computer — master and slave. The computer does what we tell it to do by programming instructions into it. It cannot think for itself — well, most computers can't. All except Joshua. He has been programmed to learn from his mistakes (playing chess, for example) so he will not make them again.

Joshua is the former code name for the War Operation Plan Response Computer (WOPR) at NORAD headquarters in Colorado Springs. The WOPR has fought World War III over and over again, so in the event of an actual nuclear holocaust, it can make key decisions without the unsafe factor of human error. To this computer, there is no difference between the war games it is playing or an actual nuclear war. It only knows the most efficient way to "run" a war.

Joshua is ready for a Global Thermonuclear War, but NORAD doesn't know it — they've forgotten Joshua even exists. When their radar shows Russian war vehicles advancing, they think it really is the start of World War III. These men don't know Joshua is only playing

a game — and neither does their computer.

A race to stop a third world war is the basis of Wargames complicated plot, directed by John Badham (Blue Thunder). The film pits innocence against cold, seemingly omnipotent evil. David Lightman (Matthew Broderick) is your not-so-average high school student, whose life revolves around the video arcade and his home computer. To impress Jennifer, a girl in his class, David ties into the school computer and changes their Biology grades. She is stunned at how easily he does it. Next he makes reservations for two to Paris — Jennifer thinks it's great.

All is not so terrific when David accidentally ties into the NORAD computer by tracing the life history of the man who built the WOPR, Stephen Falken. His son's name, Joshua, was the old code word NORAD used for the WOPR system, and was disbanded when Falken died. Rather than playing chess, as Joshua suggests, David opts for a game called Global Thermonuclear War (taking the side of

the Russians), never dreaming he is hooked up with the U.S. defense computer. When he realizes the panic he has caused David quickly burns the code number and all the other incriminating evidence. But to his surprise, the WOPR makes contact with him, anxious to resume the game they had already begun to play. NORAD easily traces David's computer and he is arrested for espionage. Quickly we discover Falken is not dead after all, but he has been hiding out on a tiny island in Oregon, under the name of Robert Hume. It is he who has planned the war, the extinction of mankind so nature can begin the life cycle again. When confronted by David and Jennifer, Falken (John Wood) appears to a demented "mad scientist" who has fathered a far more frightening creation than any Frankenstein monster.

Happily, WarGames spares us scenes of teenage lust between Broderick and Sheedy, which would have been inappropriate in both character and plot development. David and Jennifer may have been attracted to each other, but David is still too immersed in his world of technology to be anything but a bit embarrassed by 'intimate' contact with the opposite sex. Broderick does a magnificent David Lightman. You move with him, feel for him, and at the same time feel what he feels — initial embarrassment being with Jennifer, the horror over the possibility of nuclear war, the tense moments escaping from NORAD headquarters — Broderick keeps

you rooting for him every step of the way. Sheedy gives life to a somewhat stereotypic teenage girl character, and she and Broderick work well together. There is very little character development in any of the adult roles, especially David's parents — one wonders if they were a factor in David burying himself in the cocoon of his computer.

WarGames is a film with a very quiet anti-nuclear message. It

doesn't shout disarmament, or show gruesome scenes of what might be, but takes you along on a very real count-down to destruction, presenting a no-win situation of nuclear combat. The drama is tense and the characters are on target, although some of the computers tend to look like big boxes that do nothing except flash lights. One of the superior movies in the summer's bumper crop.

□Arlene Johansson

Nigerian writer to visit UVic

A writer of short stories, anthologies, novels, and textbooks. A teacher, librarian, an editor. Born in Britain, married to a Nigerian and living in Nigeria with her six children, the last of whom was born under a bush as the refugee family fled during the Nigerian Civil War. For a Canadian audience, Rosina Umelo's life, and equally her writing, fulfill the prerequisites for being exotic.

"Do people know I'm not exotic and black?" asked Umelo, discussing her upcoming visit to Canada with UVic's Dr. Jennifer Waelti-Walters.

Although she writes in English, Umelo writes "very Nigerian stories which get to the essence of the country," explains Waelti-Walters, referring to Umelo's numerous works. "Her works are humorous; very clever."

In her anthology of short stories *The Man Who Ate the Money*, Umelo describes with stark, yet humorous, perhaps critical understanding the necessity for a village woman to produce a son. Equally interesting is the account of day to day hopes and aspirations of villagers such as Okereke who "if he had had an education he would have chose to be a bank clerk."

Unlike her character Orereke, Umelo has devoted much of her life to education in teaching, working in libraries, writing text books, and participating in numerous conferences on a wide range of subjects.

For members of the UVic Women's Studies Department, Umelo's visit is particularly relevant to the courses offered next year. In September the first book discussed in Women's Studies courses taught by Christine St.



"Nigerian Writers" is the subject of Rosina Umelo's Public talk on July 7, 7 p.m. in the Green Room, Commons Block.

Peter and Gwen Brodski will be *The Bride's Pride*, by African writer Buchi Emetchita.

Umelo arrives in Montreal on June 18 to speak at the Simone de Buvoir Institute before coming to Victoria on June 24. In Victoria, Umelo will speak on "Children's Books from African Culture." She will participate in a panel discussion on "Wives and Mothers Living in Two Cultures" and a second panel with Bishop Remi de Roo discussing "Our Children and Economic Crisis." To attend these discussions, it is necessary to contact and sign up with University Extension.

At a Pot-Luck supper sponsored by VIDEA and CUSO, Rosina will talk with people on their way to Africa with CUSO. For further information on this supper, contact Susan Greg at 385-2333.



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